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Mona A. Ingle

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MEMORANDUM

State of Alaska DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

FROM: Steven McCurdy
Habitat Biologist
Habitat and Restoration Division
Craig

Date: July 24, 1999

RE: Cataloging. Tributary to Ellen Creek

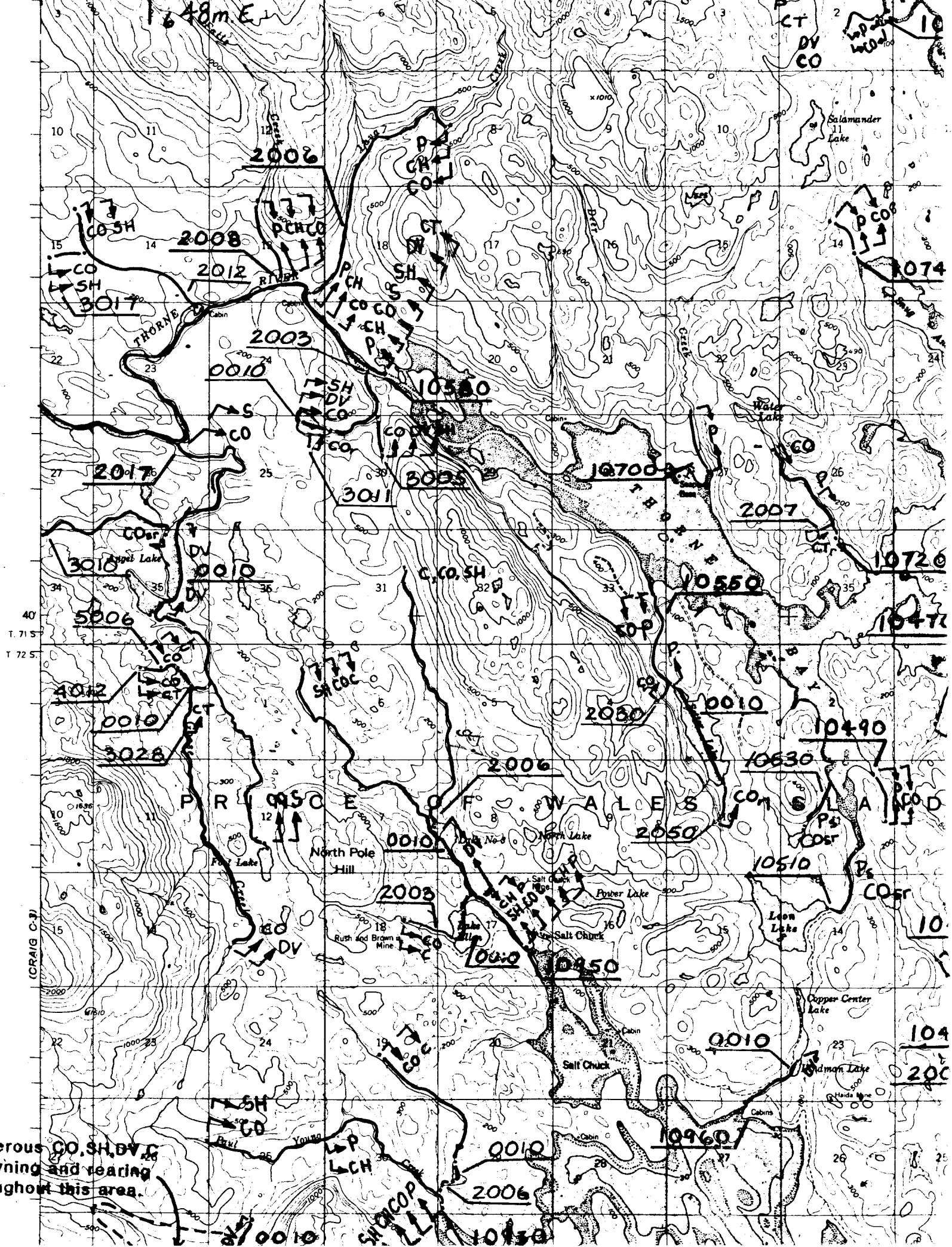
On July 24, 1999 I conducted a field inspection of a stream that is tributary to Ellen Creek (ADF&G number 102-60-10950-2006, cataloged for cutthroat and steelhead trout, and coho salmon) in order to determine the upper extent of anadromous habitat and the species present.

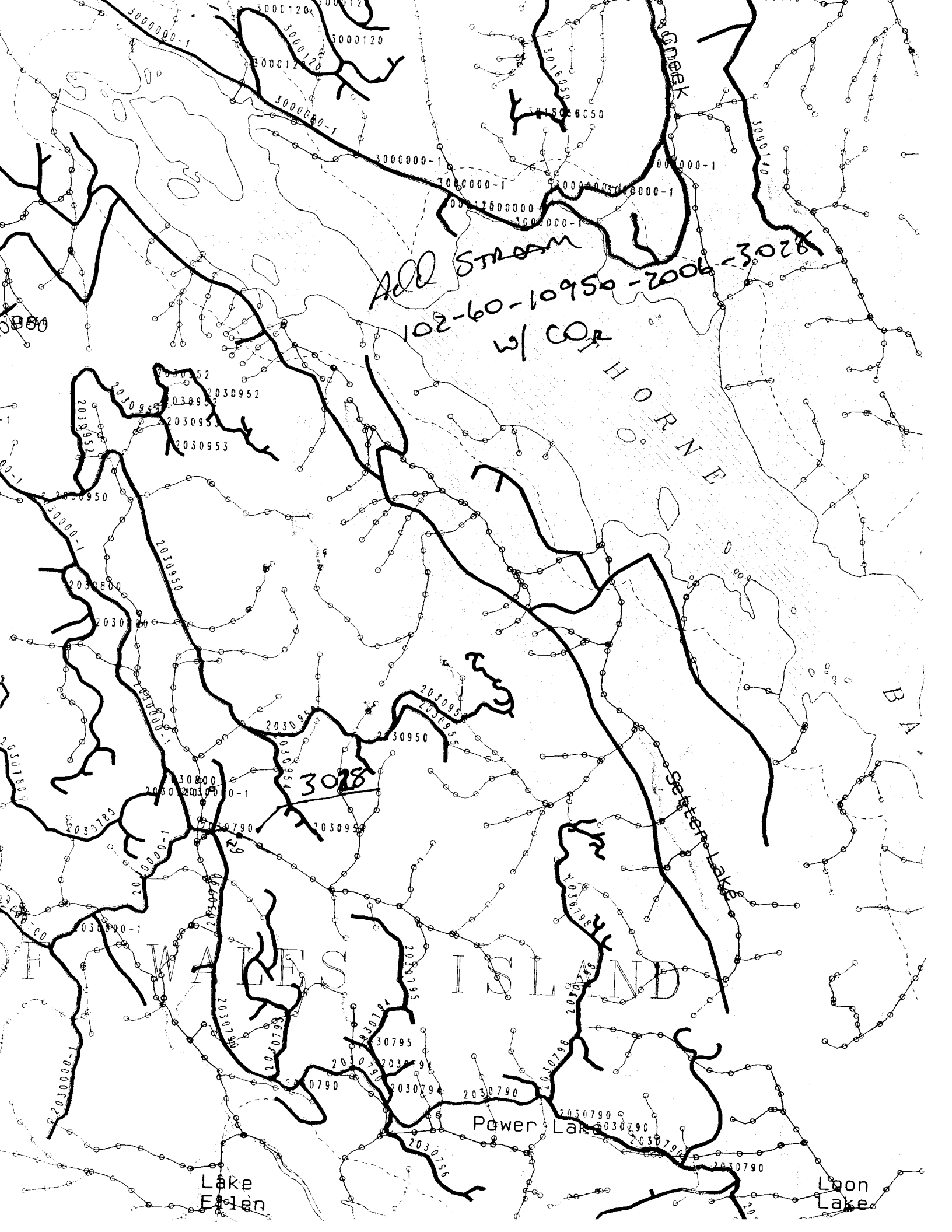
The stream enters Ellen Creek from the east in the southwest corner of section 5, T. 72 S., R. 84 E. C.R.M.. The stream is crossed by Forest Service road 2030790 approximately 100 meters upstream of its confluence with Ellen Creek. The Stream was sampled upstream from the road for a distance of 360 meters at which point the inspection was ended. Distances were measured with a hip chain and sampling was conducted with an electroshocker.

For a distance of approximately 200 meters above the road I classified the channel type as MM with an average gradient of from 4 to 6 percent. The stream substrate in this section is predominately large cobble, with smaller amounts of small cobble, boulders, and very little exposed gravel. There is very little large wood within the stream channel. The vegetation on both banks is second growth spruce and hemlock with no old growth buffer left at the time of logging. The channel width varied from 4 to 10 meters and is braided in spots. Basically this portion of creek appears 'blown out' from high flows and past timber harvest practices. After 200 meters the channel begins to increase in gradient and become very incised, and the dominant substrate switches to bedrock. I classified the stream channel as HC in this portion. At this point the stream also enters a small patch of old growth and large wood is more abundant in the channel. The gradient began to slowly increase to 11 percent by the point where 350 meters was reached. The channel narrows here with an average width of from 4 to 6 meters.

The survey was conducted at a time of low flow with very little rainfall occurring during the previous week. The stream flowed subterranean for long distances, particularly in the lower sections sampled. The first surface water encounter from the culvert at the road crossing was 56 meters upstream, where a small isolated pool was encounter.

Juvenile coho were captured up to a distance of 185 meters above the road (at the point where the gradient and channel type begin to change). Cutthroat trout were





Add Stream
102-60-10950-2004-3028
w/ COR

3028

WALES ISLAND

HORNE

Seater Lake

Power Lake

Lake Elen

Loon Lake